

## THE STATUE-WORSHIPER.

BY SALLIE M. BRYAN.

"There is a wild, strange story told of the daughter of Baron Gros, who absolutely worshipped the Apollo Belvidere."—Madame Le Ver.

God of the silent Heaven!  
Forgive the mourning trembler kneeling here,  
To whose frail heart this fatal spell is given,  
This love of beauty—See, she bends in fear!

He is so wondrous bright,—  
So fair, so cold, this glorious marble form—  
Oh, God of mercy! God of power and light!  
Let my love's fire this splendid statue warm

Behold him as he stands,  
Lovelier than any shape of breathing life;  
A stone creation of a creature's hands,  
A silent thing with maddening beauties rife.

I've kissed him o'er and o'er,  
I've wreathed his calm, cold brow with sunny flowers,  
I've kissed his marble loveliness before  
Through all the dim night's long, lone, voiceless hours.

Perchance my love is sin—  
Then do Thou quench this wild, impassioned fire—  
Or send the gift of life to glow within  
This joy bosom—grant my one desire.

"Thy vain—my prayer is vain—  
The coldness of his breast chills through my own—  
Burned—burned to ashes are my heart and brain—  
I die—with worship for a thing of stone.

## ANECDOTES OF ELEPHANTS.

Travelers in the East are apt to deal in the marvelous, and their accounts of the elephant as of everything else must be received with caution. Sensible of the high estimation in which the understanding of elephants is held, they scruple not to invent numerous fables for the amusement of their wondering audiences, who eagerly devour them.

A few of the many wonderful stories that are in circulation about elephants we are now about to publish for the amusement of our readers. They may, however, be relied upon with the most implicit credit.

The practice in India of reducing to submission an elephant that has been taken in a state of wildness, is by retaining it for a long time fastened to a large tree with strong ropes. The practice formerly was to starve an elephant thus captured, but now it is to feed it well, and omit no inducement to render the animal gentle. Its intended *mohout*, or driver, supplies him with choice food, gradually habituating him to his voice and touch, and ultimately rendering him completely familiar. Thus, in course of time, the animal will answer to his name, lie down and rise again when commanded, and even allow the *mohout* to sit on his back. When sufficiently reconciled it is unbound from the tree, and driven out to water, and is gradually made accustomed to bear a small load of grass or boughs for his own diet.

An elephant like a horse or a dog becomes more tractable by good usage than by harsh practices. And it is extremely curious that sometimes their tempers will take a complete reverse when the conduct towards them is altered from severity to mildness. Of this a proof is found in the deportment of a very fine male elephant in the possession of a gentleman at Chittagong, which he endeavored for two years in vain, to render tractable. The elephant was repeatedly offered for sale at a low price. But no one would purchase him—his character was so well known. It is customary in that district to have the firewood which is cut into stumps of about a foot or less in diameter, and perhaps five or six feet long, piled regularly; and this work is usually done by elephants, which, when properly trained, they will do as well as any laborer. The animal in question could not be induced to perform this drudgery, and all attempts to enforce his obedience having proved fruitless, his master at last gave up the point. To his utter astonishment, the elephant became suddenly good-tempered, and went of his own free will to the wood-yard, where he not only exerted himself greatly, but was, in the regularity of his work, at least equal to those which had had more practice.

A gentleman bought a female elephant at the sale of a deceased person's effects, not having the least idea that she was a *koomie*, or decoy elephant, which to him would not have been any recommendation, as he was not a dealer in the capture of elephants. He resided for a short time at the place of sale, and repeatedly refused handsome offers for his late purchase. In fact, many persons seemed desirous to obtain this elephant—a circumstance that he could not account for, as he was ignorant of her qualifications—and all kept carefully secret upon the subject, lest a knowledge of them might cause him to overrate an animal that each hoped at some time to obtain. The *mohout*, or driver, equally anxious to get out of a line replete with danger, and more willing to be in the service of a gentleman than with dealers, both on account of better wages and less drudgery, carefully forbore to reveal the value of the elephant to his master.

One morning *Lutchmee Pearree* (as the elephant was called) was not to be found. For several days no intelligence could be obtained of the truant. In fact, she was given over as lost. It was supposed, as more likely than otherwise, that she had strayed into the neighboring jungle, and joined with the wild herds. Thus no prospect remained of recovering her, unless by chance.

Conceiving their hopes were at an end, the many who had offered to purchase her did not scruple to reveal that she was a *koomie*, or decoy elephant. As is common on such occasions, they joined in lamenting the loss of so very valuable an animal.

However, about a week after, *Lutchmee* made her appearance. She was secured and kept in a place of safety. Shortly after her master went on her to take a ride. He happened to proceed towards the skirts of a very heavy grass jungle, into which *Lutchmee* frequently attempted to turn, but was as often prevented by the *mohout*. Both master and man now suspected that she was becoming rather wild, and might prove dangerous. At length *Lutchmee* became quite restive, and, in defiance of all control, dashed into the jungle, nor did she stop until arriving at a thick patch of timber-trees. To the utter astonishment of her terrified burden, there was a large male discovered, round whose fore-legs the iron chain with which *Lutchmee* was ordinarily fastened during the night at her piquets was twined, so as to secure her prize in the most complete manner.

Now in this we cannot find anything repugnant to the general conduct of elephants, nor to that probability which, to those acquainted with their nature, may be requisite to produce a belief that the story may be true. It is proper to remark that many elephants are in the habit of tying their own legs at night, and that they perform other acts which tend to display the admirable sense of feeling they possess in their trunks. The sons of the *mohouts* are generally much attached to their elephants, and take great pleasure in teaching the young ones, which are extremely playful, a variety of tricks, such as taking off the turbans of natives

in the streets, and lifting them up to the driver as he sits on their neck; throwing stones or clods of earth, which many do with great precision; picking up money, and, indeed, even discriminating between copper and silver.

A gentleman who has written an account of India, says that he had once a *chundal* (a young female elephant) of about six feet high, quite a "pickle"—up to all kinds of tricks, in which she appeared to take great delight. Once, however, her pranks caused much inconvenience. In marching from Dacca to Dinapore, she exercised her talents during the night, and not only untied her own ropes, but liberated several other elephants that were in the camp, some of them rather wild; and when the corps was to march in the morning, the tents were delayed for some hours, while persons were sent to catch the elephants, which were found some distance off, at the foot of the Gongsaparsand Hills.

The first, according to Suetonius, who exhibited elephants, was Galba, at Rome. The manner of teaching them to dance on the ground was simple enough (by the association of music and a hot floor), but we are not informed how they were taught to skip the rope, or whether it was the tight or the slack rope, or how high the rope might be. The silence of history on these points is fortunate for the figurates of the present day, since, but for this, their fame might have been utterly eclipsed.

Elephants may, in the days of old Rome, have been taught to dance on the rope, but when was an elephant ever known to skip on a rope over the heads of an audience, or to caper amidst a blaze of fire fifty feet aloft in the air, as was done in the days of our grandfathers by Madame Saqui? What would Aristotle have thought of his dancing elephants if he had seen her?

Among the numerous interesting anecdotes of the elephant, we may narrate the following:—At Delhi an elephant passing along the streets put his trunk into a tailor's shop where several people were at work; one of them pricked the end of it with his needle; the animal passed on, but from the next dirty pool filled his trunk with muddy water, returned to the shop, and spurted every drop among the people who had offended him, and spoiled their work.

A soldier refused to give the road to an elephant and his conductor, at which the elephant was highly affronted. Some days after, meeting the soldier upon the banks of a river, at a time when he had not his keeper with him, he seized him with his trunk, ducked him several times in the water, and let him go; he then walked off, seemingly much pleased (or laughing in his way), at thus having retaliated the affront he had received.

Elephants, though they never fail to retaliate for an affront, are remarkably mild and gentle in their disposition.

When once tamed their attachment to their keeper is very strong. They seem to live but to serve and obey him, and, when treated with kindness, testify their gratitude by fulfilling all his desires, and, caressing him with affectionate fondness, receive his commands with attention, and execute them with punctuality and zeal.

Elephants live to a great age. Some authors have asserted that an elephant lives four or five hundred years; but the most credible inform us that he seldom lives above a hundred, or a hundred and fifty years.

He is endowed with a most retentive memory, a fine sense of feeling, and a quick hearing; he is very fond of music, and seems animated by the beat of the drum and the sound of trumpets. He is passionately fond of perfumes of all kind, but more especially of fragrant flowers.

The elephant in size surpasses all other terrestrial creatures, and in understanding he is inferior to none, man excepted.

Of the brute creation, the elephant, the dog, the ape, and the beaver, are generally the most admired for their sagacity. But Buffon says the genius of the dog is borrowed, being instructed by man in almost everything he knows. The monkey has only the appearance of wisdom, and the beaver is only sensible with regard to itself and those of its species. The elephant is superior to all three of them, being possessed of all their most eminent qualities. To judge correctly of their relative value, we must acknowledge him at least to possess the judgment of the beaver, the dexterity of the monkey, the sentiment of the dog, and, in addition to these qualifications, he has the peculiar advantage of strength, size and longevity.

The sagacity peculiar to elephants was well displayed by those animals when the British army under Sir David Ochterlony were ascending the Ghats to attack the Nepaulesse forces in their mountain fortresses. An eye-witness after describing the ascent of the army by means of projecting rocks and boughs in one particular part of the march, gives an account of the conduct of the elephants. "Having got all the men up," he says, "they were at a loss for expedients how to get the elephants up."

They cut a good deal of the most prominent part of the hill away, and laid trees on the ascent as a footing for those animals. The elephants were then made to approach it. The first one did so with reluctance and fear. He looked up and shook his head; and, when forced by his driver, he roared piteously.

"There can be no question in my opinion," continues the writer, "that this sagacious animal was competent instinctively to judge of the practicability of the artificial flight of steps thus constructed; for the moment that some little alteration had been made, he seemed willing to approach. He then commenced his examination and scrutiny, by pressing with his trunk the trees that had been thrown across; and, after this, he put his fore leg on with great caution, raising the fore-part of his body so as to throw its weight on the tree. This done, he seemed satisfied as to its stability.

"The next step for him to ascend by was a projecting rock, which we could not remove.

"Here the same sagacious examination took

place, the elephant keeping his flat side close to the side of the bank, and leaning against it.

"The next step was against a tree; but this, on the first pressure of his trunk, he did not like. Here his driver made use of the most endearing epithets, such as "Wonderful, my life," "Well done, my dear," "My dove," "My son," "My wife,"—but all these endearing appellations, of which elephants are so fond, could not induce him to try again. Force was at length resorted to, and the elephant roared terrifically, but would not move. Something was then removed. He seemed satisfied as before; and he in time ascended that stupendous ghaat. On his reaching the top, his



delight was visible in a most eminent degree; he caressed his keeper, and threw the dirt about in a most playful manner.

"Another elephant, a much younger animal, was now to follow. He had watched the ascent of the other with the most intense interest, making motions all the while, as though he was assisting him, by shouldering him up the acclivity;—such gestures as I have seen some men make when spectators of gymnastic exercises. When he saw his comrade up he evinced his pleasure by giving a salute something like the sound of a trumpet.

"When called upon to take his turn, however, he seemed much alarmed, and would not set at all without force. When he was two steps up, he slipped, but recovered himself by digging his toes in the earth. With the exception of this little incident, he ascended exceedingly well.

"When this elephant was near the top, the other, who had already performed his task, extended his trunk to the assistance of his brother in distress, round which the younger one twined his, and thus reached the summit of the ghaat in safety. Having both accomplished their task, their greeting was as cordial as if they had been long separated from each other, and had just escaped from some perilous achievement. They mutually embraced each other, and stood face to face for a considerable time, as if whispering congratulations. Their driver then made them salaam to the general, who ordered them five rupees each for sweetmeats. On this reward of their merit being returned, their driver immediately made them return thanks by another salaam."

Another traveler in India thus gives an account of the sensations on being conveyed on the back of an elephant:—

"The elephant," says he, "was commanded to kneel down, and by the help of his tail, which one man held up to form a step, I succeeded in mounting. Another command being given, he rose, and I was lifted into the air to a height at which I certainly never before traveled.

"His motion was not unpleasant; but whenever he found himself incommoded by the heat, he occasionally put his trunk into his mouth, where he had some means of secreting water; and this he disgorged into it, and then squirted over his body, thus keeping the surface of his skin moist and cool by evaporation, though in a manner not very agreeable to his riders.

"The road we traveled was particularly hilly and rugged, sometimes passing over loose rocks, and everywhere full of deep ruts; yet the animal never made a false step, nor did he jolt us in descending the most precipitous steps. His tread was so soft it could not be heard; and on one or two occasions, where the stones were perpendicular for two or three feet, he let his foot down so gently, that he did not in the least shake his riders."

We will close our extracts with the following graphic account of the shooting of an elephant in Ceylon. Twilight had been rapidly drawing on, and the sportsmen were about to retire to their harbor for the night, when, in the jungle over the water, to their left, something of a dazzling whiteness attracted their attention. It was the splendid tusks of a full-grown elephant, perfect in all his points; but what a time to present himself! just as it was getting dark, and a quarter of a mile only between him and the hunters!

"However," observes the narrator, "as tuskers are far from common in Ceylon, and this appeared to be a most noble specimen, it was determined to attack him: not a moment was lost in brief preparation. In shirt and trousers, and one gun each, away we started, with the wind in our favor—an indispensable advantage. We kept close to the jungle until we reached the spot the elephant had first appeared at; and, after one look at our pans, committed ourselves to the open ground, walking down right upon him. He was slowly making his way to the lake, with his back to us, now and then stopping to pull a tuft of lemon grass, and raising his trunk in the air to collect intelligence. As we approached him—treading as lightly as possible—a deep, low grumbling—not unworthy of being compared to distant thunder—told us his suspicions were awakened. No time then was to be lost, so we moved quicker, when, being about twenty yards from him, he all at once wheeled round, and with a shrill, angry cry that made the woods resound, stalked furiously towards us. I happened to have the first fire—it was a front shot; but his head was too high from his nearness, and my ball, entering in the hollow above the eye, skimmed his brain instead of entering it. S. flashed in the pan, so did E., and it was *same old pant* when T. fired. For one moment the huge beast was stationary—then fell at his full length on the turf—his eye glazed and legs stretched out, as stiff as if he had been carved in stone—the ball had entered behind the ear, and lodged deep in the brain."

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

GRAMMARIAN.—The more education a bookkeeper has, the better; but we have known very good bookkeepers whose intelligence, outside of their special business, was quite limited. It depends on a man's situation as to whether or not a knowledge of grammar is requisite. He that is in the employ of men who cannot tell whether a letter is written employ of men who cannot tell whether a letter is written employ of men who cannot tell whether a letter is written

FICKLE LOVER.—According to your statement of the case, we think that "original disappointment in love" has rendered you what people call "love-cracked"—that is, made you silly and fickle in regard to women. This being the case, you will probably go on rendering yourself disagreeable and ridiculous until some girl's father or brother takes you in hand and gives you a sound flogging, after which you will probably be careful how you annoy ladies or trifle with their affections.

RAY STATE.—Lord Napier is the English Ambassador at Washington; Monsieur de Sartiges represents the French Government, and Baron Stoeckel the Russian.

VAMPOUR.—The best way to drive the rats from your house is to obtain a good cat and give her the run of the premises. P. O. lions are dangerous.

SEVERAL BOYS have requested us to give a solution of the "sheep problem," published in the LEDGER of May 1st, as they "can't work it out, and think it is wrong." The problem is right. It runs thus: A and B were driving sheep to market, when A said to B—"Give me three of your sheep, and I will have as many again as you." "No," answered B; "you give me three of your sheep, and then we shall each have the same number." How many sheep had A, and how many had B? This is an algebraic problem. Let x equal the number of sheep A had, and y equal the number B had. Then, according to the conditions, if you take three sheep from A's number, and add them to A's, the latter will have as many again as the former; in other words, x-3 equals 2y-6. And if you take three sheep from A's lot and add them to B's, each will have the same number, or, in other words, x-3 equals y+3. The statement, algebraically, then is—

$$\begin{aligned} x-3 &= 2y-6 \\ x-3 &= y+3 \\ x-2y &= 9 \\ x &= y+9 \\ y+6-2y-9 &= 2y-6-9 \\ y-3 &= 2y-15 \\ y &= 12, \text{ which is B's number.} \\ x-3 &= 2y-6 \\ x-3 &= 24-6 \\ x &= 21, \text{ which is A's number.} \end{aligned}$$

This result can be "proved." If to A's 21 you add 3 taken from B's 16, A will have 24 and B 12. Or if from A's 21 you take 3, and add them to B's 16, they will have eighteen each.

PACIFIC.—Your patriotism takes a queer bent, and your anxiety to prove that "our animals" beat all the rest in creation is highly amusing. So far as we know, you have made out your case in favor of "our grizzly bear" against the lion of whatever country. We have never heard or read of a lion weighing sixteen hundred pounds, or that could perform the feats of strength and ferocity which you relate of the "grizzlies." From what we have read of the latter, we are inclined to the opinion that they grow to a greater size than the lion, but whether they possess sufficient strength and agility to cope with him is a question. If some enterprising and "patriotic" person would test this matter by placing a lion and grizzly bear, fairly matched as to size, in an enclosure together, we should then be able to form some idea of their relative powers, and know what dependence to place on the pluck and prowess of our native animal.

CHICAGO LOVER.—It is natural that your betrothed sweetheart should dislike the postponement of your wedding for so long a time. She had probably told her intimate friends that she was to be married at a certain time; and your prolonged absence and the non-fulfillment of the marriage engagement of course embarrassed her. On the other hand, your prudence, in deferring the marriage until you can recover from the pecuniary troubles in which you are involved, should not be looked upon by her as an outrage, or as an insult, or as indicating a lack of affection on your part. If she has really become "frazzled" as to whether you marry her or not, you must be careful how you delay the marriage much longer, if you are anxious to secure her for your wife. A young girl, in such a state of mind, could easily be won by another lover.

A PRINTER.—The system of *fagging* referred to in the story of "Richard Hoffman," as practiced in the English schools, is the doing by the younger scholars of menial services for their elders. The school is divided off into forms, running from one to six, and sometimes seven. In these forms the boys are classed according to their standing and scholarship, as our college-boys are classed as freshmen, sophomores, &c.; the first form being the lowest, and the last form the highest. Any boy may fag a schoolfellow of a lower grade than himself—that is, he may compel him to black his boots, run for errands for him, fetch his water, make his bed, &c.—if he can fag or master him. Hence the desperate fights and cruelty spoken of in "Richard Hoffman."

MAY AND JUNE.—As you value the gentleman's friendship, you might with propriety and without any sacrifice of dignity on your part, ask him for an explanation. Perhaps he called for you at a late hour on the day appointed for his excursion, and not finding you at home, and learning that you had gone off with a party of pleasure, and not hearing that you had waited for him until you supposed he would not come at all, was offended at what, under such circumstances, was naturally *seem* to him to be very ill treatment of himself by you. So, you had better have an explanation. Good friends are too valuable to be lightly thrown away.

JESU.—Should the parents of the child prosecute you, they could probably recover heavy damages. You were clearly in fault, as you were driving more rapidly than any man should ever drive in a city street, and especially just at dusk, when children are apt to be playing out of doors, and the sight is obscured by the gathering shades of evening.

J. F. ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.—The firm which you mention is one of the swindling concerns that have been broken up in this city by the vigilance and skill of Mayor Tienan and Sergeant Bernay. You and your friends will never see your money again. "We know of no such 'book of acrobatics' as you mention."

ALEXANDER.—It is not known who made the first violin. The instrument is of very ancient date, and has undergone many modifications in size, shape and the number of strings. The Chinese have used two and three-stringed violins these four thousand years. The names of the most celebrated makers of violins were Steiner, Amati, and Stradivari.

M. W.—There would be no harm in a girl's marrying a man who had got a divorce from another wife. Such a thing would not be a matter of right or wrong, but merely a question of taste. In this State it costs from \$25 to \$100, to get a divorce, according to circumstances. There is no fixed price for such delicacies of the season.

ADVICE.—Say nothing about the young lady's confession of love. It would embarrass her and do your friend no good—in fact, it would probably make him hate you intensely. You should also treat her with the utmost delicacy and gentleness.

HOUSEKEEPER.—We have no doubt that the coffee-pot you mention is an excellent utensil, but we shall not so much as mention its name in the LEDGER, inasmuch as we do not wish to single out any article for praise, and will not even indirectly advertise any merchandise whatever.

LOUIS NAVIGATOR.—You had better write to General Scott for the information you seek. He is an exceedingly courteous gentleman, and would reply to you at his earliest convenience.

REHMER.—A physician can best tell you what books to read preparatory to entering upon a regular medical course of study.

GAMBON.—You can gain nothing by harshness. Do as you would wish to be done by, under the same circumstances.

FOR BACK NUMBERS of the "LEDGER" we charge four cents a copy. "The Storm Secret," ten eleven numbers, price 44 cents; "The Myrtle Bride," eleven numbers, price 44 cents; "The Hebrew's Curse," ten numbers, price 40 cents; "Orion, the Gold Bearer," fourteen numbers, price 56 cents; "Emma Davis," six numbers, price 24 cents; "Sarah Percival," seven numbers, price 28 cents; "The Refugees," eleven numbers, price 44 cents; "Karmel, the Scout," twelve numbers, price 48 cents; "The Abducted Heiress," seven numbers, price 28 cents; "The Wild Knight," five numbers, price 20 cents; "The Wife's Quest," six numbers, price 24 cents; "The Widow of Toledo," nine numbers, price 36 cents; "The Island Princess," seventeen numbers, price 68 cents; "Bion, the Wanderer," seventeen numbers, price 68 cents; "Lady Claudine," eight numbers, price 32 cents; "The Pioneer Patriot," eleven numbers, price 44 cents; "The Crown Jewels," ten numbers, price 40 cents; "The Bride of an Evening," eleven numbers, price 44 cents.

We will mail to any address either of the above-named stories on the receipt of the sum stated; or we will mail all the numbers of the LEDGER from June 7th, 1856, up to and including the number of March 13th, 1858—being ninety-three numbers in all, and containing all of these stories complete, on the receipt of \$3. This is a very cheap reading—eighteen stories complete, besides the immense variety of other matter contained in the LEDGER during that period, for \$3.

YOUNG FARMER.—It is impossible for any one to tell you with any degree of certainty what your chance for making a fortune in the gold mines of California would be. We are inclined to the opinion, however, that the same amount of work and frugality which miners do and practice in California, if invested in labor and life at home, would on an average purchase more satisfactory results here than in the mines. A miner works like Hercules from fourteen to eighteen hours out of the twenty-four; he lives on the coarsest food; he wears out but little broadcloth or patent leather; in short, he lives but little better than a savage. Now, if you will work as hard and live as economically at home, as the miner does in California, you can soon secure a competence. Besides, you will escape all the dangers incident to mining life. A few weeks since we read an account of a party of five miners being attacked by four grizzly bears; four of the unfortunate men were torn in pieces, and the fifth barely escaped with his life, by climbing a tree, his feet being nearly torn off by one of the brutes that attempted to drag him down. You would run no such risk as this at home.

NELLIE.—A mother has a right to control her daughter's conduct until the latter becomes of age, provided she lives at home and is supported by her parents. If she has to take care of herself, and works and acts independently of her parents, of course she must control her own conduct, so far as her obtaining a livelihood is concerned. But in other matters, and especially in regard to such an important event as that of marriage, she should consult her parents and seek the aid of her counsel. A mother should not open her daughter's letters. Such an act is not only extremely improper, but exceedingly injudicious. She should be such an excellent mother as to win her daughter's love and perfect confidence, and then the daughter would always consult her, as her best and dearest, and most respected and beloved friend.

WARREN says he is "engaged to a young lady who has a cousin with whom she makes very free. She sits on his lap, allows him to kiss her at any and all times, and when he (she and I) are in a room together, if he comes in she will leave my side, and run and throw her arms round his neck, and kiss him and sit on his lap, leaving me to take care of myself all the time. He is also allowed to enter her private room at pleasure. Now I want to know if their cousinship warrants such proceedings on her part?" No. She must be a very vulgar and ignorant creature, or she would not behave in so unbecoming a manner. If you know when you are well off, you will resign her to her cousin altogether. It strikes us that they would do well to marry each other, and the sooner the better.

A SCHOOL GRIZ says: "Will you please inform me where in Caesar's wife was so superior to others of the sex? I have so frequently heard it remarked that so-and-so, and such-and-such a thing must, 'like Caesar's wife, be above suspicion,' that I am anxious to learn in what respect she was such a paragon." We don't know as that celebrated lady was any better than she should be, but Caesar himself, being probably of a jealous turn of mind, gave out that his wife, or any woman who aspired to that relation, must be "above suspicion," and the idea has been used ever since for metaphorical and illustrative purposes.

A PUZZLED YOUNG COUPLE can't agree upon a name for their infant daughter and son. They want names "that will sound alike," and yet be pretty and proper. Why not name them Francis and Frances, then? That is the pair of twin names which sound and look the most alike, and they are both pretty and proper. For common use they are too much alike, as both children would be called Frank, whereby confusion would be created. Lucien and Lucille, Nathaniel and Nathaniel, Abel and Mabel, Adrian and Adrienne, Oliver and Olivia, or "Moss" and Rose, are any pair at them, near enough alike in sound and appearance.

MASTER.—You are quite right in fearing that your lover has a cruel disposition, since he wantonly and purposely broke the dog's back, and he never referred to it since except in a manner of unfeeling levity. We think that a man who will maliciously injure an inoffensive dumb brute must himself have a most brutal disposition. You had better not marry that girl.

PORT HURON GRIM.—The reason so many French, and German, and Italian phrases occur in "fashionable literature," and books of travel, is because their authors are pedants, and wish to air their learning—or, more properly, to use the terms of these languages in such a manner as to make people believe they really have a good knowledge of the tongues in which they in truth are the merest dabblers.

A LEDGER READER.—When persons have the smallpox lightly and at an early age, they sometimes outgrow its disfiguring marks; but when they are deeply pitted, or have the disease after having arrived at mature age, nothing will eradicate the evidence of its ravages. We do not believe in treatment of any kind.

CRUELTY.—Such trifling matters as neighborhood gossip and little-tattle should be passed by without notice. The more you attempt to confront and put them down, the more vigorously they will spread, while silent contempt kills them off speedily.

BLACK HAWK.—It is not likely that the inhabitants of Iowa will ever be seriously molested by the Indians. Should any aborigines as are living within the bounds, or near the confines, of that State venture to attack the whites, they would soon be driven away and exterminated.

FOKKER.—The only way we know for a "young man who has not the means," to get money to pay his way through college, is to go to work and earn it. By laboring diligently and living frugally, you can save money enough, in a few years, to pay your college expenses.

COLUMBIAN.—The young lady of course has a right to demand her letters of you, and you should at once give them up. If she has any of yours, she should return them; if she refuses so to do, you can properly hold her until she will consent to an exchange of epistles.

JAMES.—It is impossible for any one to say which is the most interesting book in the world. Each man can judge and say what book, of all the works he has seen, is most interesting to himself. It is so about everything else, which relates to choice, taste, or any affection, opinion or passion.

LAMARTINE.—You will run no risk of offending the young lady by telling her, either verbally or by letter, that you love her. Such information is always grateful to a woman, and to a man also.

J. N. M.—It is impossible to say whether or not you could get a situation in New Orleans, or anywhere else. If you go South, you should go in the fall. If you go in the spring the hot weather of the summer will be apt to finish you.

W. G. W.—When you are intimately acquainted with a lady, you can speak to her any time, without waiting for her to salute you first; but otherwise you should always wait for a lady to give you the first signal of recognition.

LADY LIGHTFOOT.—The bunch of violets came to hand in as good a condition as could have been expected after their ride of a thousand miles in Uncle Sam's mail bags. We are obliged for your friendly wishes and your sprightly lines.

ADAM CENESIA is respectfully informed that we have no recollection of the letter she refers to, nor of the question hinted at. If she wants it answered she will have to ask it over again.

DEBATER.—Your question is one that can not be "decided," except by the Supreme Court of the United States. We do not argue, or attempt to decide, political or theological questions.

X. M. C.—The circulation of the LEDGER is greater than that of any ten other literary papers in America. The celebrated character Dugali Dalgetty figures in Scott's "Legend of Montrose."

BAITHORIAN.—When a city is spoken of as "large," "great," &c. reference is generally had to the number of its population and not to the extent of ground it covers.

LEMMEL.—Return the letter, of course, as you have found from its contents that it could not have been intended for you.

BRICK.—Your opportunities for learning the trade of a machinist would be greater in a large city than in a small village.

J. B. H.—The lottery concern you mention has been broken up by Mayor Tienan. Your money is clean gone forever.

MORRIS.—No. A minor cannot be held to a marriage engagement, or any other, if he chooses to avoid it.

J. K.—Get as good an education as you can, and stick to the farm as your father wishes you to do.

P. C.—Stick to your legitimate employment.

\* \* \* Several letters stand over to be answered in our next.